

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 19-30 and 32-34 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 35 and 36 as follows:

1. (Original) An information processing method for maintaining, in a system in which each of a plurality of processes connected via an information transmission medium holds and uses shared data to be shared by the processes, consistency of shared data held by the respective processes, comprising:

an output step of outputting, when a manipulation request for the shared data is generated, request information that represents the manipulation request onto the information transmission medium;

a reception step of receiving the request information output in the output step and response information corresponding to request information output by other processes from the information transmission medium; and

a manipulation execution step of executing a manipulation for the shared data in accordance with manipulation request indicated by the response information received in the reception step.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the manipulation execution step includes a step of executing the manipulation request generated in the self process only after the corresponding response information is received in the reception step.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the manipulation execution step includes a step of executing, when a predetermined period of time elapses after generation of the manipulation request before reception of the corresponding response information in the reception step, the manipulation request generated in the self process without waiting for reception of that response information.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 3, further comprising a queue control step of registering a queue item in a manipulation queue in response to generation of the manipulation request, and setting a corresponding queue item to be an already processed item when the manipulation request is executed, and

wherein the manipulation execution step includes a step of executing, when an item in the manipulation queue corresponding to the manipulation request indicated by the response information is not set to be an already processed item, the manipulation request indicated by the response information.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the manipulation execution step operates in one of a plurality of update modes which include:

a first mode of executing a manipulation request generated in the self process only after corresponding response information is received in the reception step; and

a second mode of executing a manipulation request generated in the self process at an earlier one of an elapse timing of a predetermined period of time after

generation of the manipulation request, and a reception timing of corresponding response information in the reception step.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 5, wherein the shared data consists of a plurality of items, each of which contains designation information used to designate a update mode to be adopted.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 6, further comprising a switching step of switching the update mode for each of the plurality of items.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the switching step includes a step of providing a user interface that allows a user to select an object display corresponding to a desired item and to designate a desired update mode.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 7, wherein a update mode switching result in the switching step is reflected on the shared data of the plurality of clients.

10. The method according to claim 7, wherein a update mode switching result in the switching step is reflected on the shared data of a client of interest.

11. The method according to claim 5, further comprising a setting step of setting the predetermined period of time.

12. The method according to claim 1, wherein execution of the manipulation request in the manipulation execution step executes an update process for updating the shared data and a drawing process for updating drawing on the basis of the updated shared data in turn, and

the manipulation execution step includes a step of executing, when the update process is ready to be executed before reception of corresponding response information, the manipulation request generated in the self process without waiting for reception of that response information.

13. The method according to claim 7, wherein the switching step includes a step of setting the update mode in accordance with manipulation contents for an object corresponding to an item.

14. An information processing method for maintaining, in a system in which each of a plurality of processes connected via an information transmission medium holds and uses shared data to be shared by the processes, consistency of shared data held by the respective processes, comprising:

an establishment step of establishing connection to a plurality of client processes;

a reception step of receiving an event associated with a change in shared data from each of the plurality of client processes; and

an issuance step of issuing the event received in the reception step to the plurality of client processes.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 14, wherein the event received in the reception step contains update mode information indicating a change sequence of the shared data, and

the issuance step includes a step of controlling distribution destinations of the event on the basis of the update mode information.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 15, wherein the issuance step includes a step of checking based on the update mode information in the event received in the reception step if an issuance source of the event has already processed the shared data, and not issuing that event to the client as the issuance source when it is determined that the issuance source has already processed the shared data.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 16, wherein the event further contains a time-out time, and

it is determined that the issuance source of the event has already processed the shared data when the update mode information indicates a update mode that executes a manipulation when the time-out time elapses, and when a current time has passed the time-out time.

18. (Original) An information processing apparatus for maintaining, in a system in which each of a plurality of processes connected via an information transmission medium holds and uses shared data to be shared by the processes, consistency of shared data held by the respective processes, comprising:

- an output unit configured to, when a manipulation request for the shared data is generated, output request information that represents the manipulation request onto the information transmission medium;

- a reception unit configured to receive the request information output by said output unit and response information corresponding to request information output by other processes from the information transmission medium; and

- a manipulation execution unit configured to execute a manipulation for the shared data in accordance with manipulation request indicated by the response information received in said reception unit.

Claims 19-30 (Cancelled).

31. (Original) An information processing apparatus for maintaining, in a system in which each of a plurality of processes connected via an information transmission medium holds and uses shared data to be shared by the processes, consistency of shared data held by the respective processes, comprising:

an establishment unit configured to establish connection to a plurality of client processes;

a reception unit configured to receive an event associated with a change in shared data from each of the plurality of client processes; and

an issuance unit configured to issue the event received by said reception unit to the plurality of client processes.

Claims 32-34 (Cancelled).

35. (Currently Amended) A control program for making a computer execute an information processing method ~~of any one of claim 1 25 claims 1 to 17.~~

36. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a control program for making a computer execute an information processing method of claim 1 ~~of any one of claims 1 to 17.~~